

Board of Education

The meeting of Northwest Education Services Board of Education was held on July 11, 2023. Dr. Ceglarek, Superintendent called the meeting to order at 8:00 a.m.

The oath of office was administered to newly elected Board Members Elizabeth Lajko and Lisa Thomas.

Roll call

Board Members Present:

Birgy
Brown
Fisher
Lajko

Petrella
Scherrer
Thomas

Board Members Absent:

Pledge of Allegiance

I. Organizational Meeting

Motion by Member Scherrer, supported by Member Petrella, to nominate Joe Fisher for President. Motion by Member Birgy, supported by Member Brown to close the nomination. Roll call vote to close nomination: Ayes: 7; Nays: 0. Motion carried. Members in favor of Joe Fisher as President Ayes: 7; Nays: 0. Motion carried.

Motion by Member Birgy, supported by Member Petrella, to nominate Jim Scherrer for Vice President. Motion by Member Brown, supported by Member Petrella to close the nomination. Roll call vote to close nomination: Ayes: 7; Nays: 0. Motion carried. Members in favor of Jim Scherrer as Vice President Ayes: 7; Nays: 0. Motion carried.

Motion by Member Brown, supported by Member Scherrer, to nominate Liz Petrella for Treasurer. Motion by Member Scherrer, supported by Member Birgy to close the nomination. Roll call vote to close nomination: Ayes: 7; Nays: 0. Motion carried. Members in favor of Liz Petrella as Treasurer Ayes: 7; Nays: 0. Motion carried.

Motion by Member Scherrer, supported by Member Brown, to nominate Rachael Birgy for Secretary. Motion by Member Brown, supported by Member Scherrer to close the nomination. Roll call vote to close nomination: Ayes: 7; Nays: 0. Motion carried. Members in favor of Rachael Birgy as Secretary Ayes: 7; Nays: 0. Motion carried.

Motion by Member Scherrer, supported by Member Brown to approve the Superintendent, Assistant Superintendent for Special Education, Assistant Superintendent of Career & Technical Education, Assistant Superintendent of Professional Learning & Innovation, and Chief Financial Officer be authorized to sign checks, contracts, agreements and purchase orders.

Resolved, that those persons listed on the attached sheet be authorized as approved signatures on the designated checking and investment accounts. Roll call vote: Ayes: 7; Nays: 0. Motion carried.

Motion by Member Brown, supported by Member Scherrer to approve Huntington National Bank of Traverse City, Michigan and the Michigan Liquid Asset Fund, as the designated depositories for all Intermediate School District funds and the Treasurer be authorized to invest District funds in the best interest of the District. For investment purposes, the following financial institutions may be used: Flagstaff Bank; Comerica Bank; Fifth Third Bank; Huntington National Bank; PNC; JP Morgan Chase; Michigan CLASS; Michigan Liquid Asset Fund/PFM Asset Management LLC. Roll call vote: Ayes: 7; Nays: 0. Motion carried.

Motion by Member Scherrer, supported by Member Petrella to set per diem for board members at \$30.00 per meeting for up to fifty-two meetings per year. Resolved, to reimburse board members for mileage, July 11, 2023

lodging and meals for expenses incurred while attending meetings to represent the district as a board member. Mileage shall be reimbursed at the current IRS allowable rate. Roll call vote: Ayes: 7; Nays: 0. Motion carried.

Motion by Member Birgy, supported by Member Petrella to set the first Tuesday of each month, 5:30 p.m., with the exception of the August, 2023 and January, June, July and August, 2024 meetings. These meetings will be held on August 1, 2023, at 8:00 a.m., January 9, 2024 at 5:30 p.m., then 8:00 a.m. meetings June 11, 2024, July 9, 2024 and August 6, 2024 as the regular meeting date for the Board of Education and that a schedule of meetings for the year to be posted. Roll call vote: Ayes: 7; Nays: 0. Motion carried.

Motion by Member Brown, supported by Member Scherrer that the Treasurer and others who are authorized to receive and disburse funds be required to post a bond in the amount of \$25,000 conditional upon the faithful performance of their duties. Roll call vote: Ayes: 7; Nays: 0. Motion carried.

Motion by Member Petrella, supported by Member Birgy that Thrun Law Firm, P.C., and Miller Johnson Snell & Cummiskey PLC, Attorneys to serve as legal counsel for the district. Roll call vote: Ayes: 7; Nays: 0.

II. Regular Business

Motion by Member Petrella, supported by Member Brown, to approve the July 11, 2023 agenda as presented. Roll call vote: Ayes: 7; Nays: 0. Motion carried.

Welcomed Visitors & Public Comment

There were none

Motion by Board Member Scherrer, supported by Board Member Brown, to approve consent grouping items 1-3 as presented.

1. Minutes of June 13, 2023 regular meeting
2. Monthly Accounts Payable Check Summary and Financial Report June 1, 2023 to June 30, 2023. Check Numbers: 193270-193628. Total for Month: \$6,499,041.21
4. Personnel:
 - A. New Position:
 - Great Start Collaborative Coordinator, effective October, 2023
 - B. New Employees:
 - Sarah Bullard, Allied Health Instructor, effective August 30, 2023
 - Kalee Lown, Teacher Assistant, effective August 30, 2023
 - Margaret Osorio, Teacher Assistant, effective August 30, 2023
 - Jennifer Cocklin, Teacher Consultant, effective August 30, 2023
 - Heather Lauzon, Teacher Assistant, effective August 30, 2023
 - Robert Parsons, Accountant, effective July 17, 2023
 - Samantha Tourre, Instructional Services Specialist, effective August 30, 2023
 - C. Employee Resignations:
 - Tina Rosenburg, Teacher Assistant, effective June 9, 2023
 - Sanjay Woolcott, Custodian, effective June 30, 2023
 - Ivan Garma Mendez, Technology Support Specialist, effective June 23, 2023
 - Jana Dickman, Teacher, Special Education, effective June 27, 2023
 - Lauren O'Connor, School Social Worker, effective June 27, 2023
 - Sandra Chavalía, Paraprofessional, effective October 31, 2023 (retirement 27 years)
 - Christopher Farr, Adaptive PE Teacher, effective August 11, 2023

Roll call vote: Ayes: 7; Nays: 0. Motion carried.

Motion by Board Member Petrella, supported by Board Member Birgy to approve Renewal of Software Licensing through REMC SAVE in the amount of \$31,592.33. Roll call vote: Ayes: 7; Nays: 0. Motion carried.

Motion by Board Member Brown, supported by Board Member Petrella to approve Purchase of Equipment and Tools for the Aviation Maintenance Program through MiDEAL Cooperative Purchasing Program in the amount of \$44,752.55. Roll call vote: Ayes: 7; Nays: 0. Motion carried.

Information Items: There were none

Discussion Items: There were none

Updates:

Superintendent's Report - Dr. Nick Ceglarek:

1. He welcomed Shawn Biddle, new Chief Financial Officer as we know she will have big shoes to fill upon Linda Bielecki's retirement in September. We welcome Shawn in her new role and recognize her vast experience and expertise in local districts and at North Ed.

2. We have been working very hard on the Grow Your Own program and thanked Matt Olson for his work with Grand Valley State University. We were recently awarded \$2.3 million to operate our own North Ed Grow Your Own program that will begin in the winter cohort. It's no surprise of the shortage of teachers we have in Michigan and will work very hard to fill that pipeline.

3. We have been involved in Talent Together that is a consortium of 48 ISDs that came together to develop a comprehensive grow your own program working with six universities to help reduce the costs of tuition for those already employed by school districts across the state. We applied for the grant that MDE was offering for \$175 million and were not awarded. However, the legislature and Governor found the coalition so strong that they budgeted over \$66 million dollars for the Talent Together grant. We already have 1500 applicants in the system. We will be able to start with 800-850 for this first year. We are working with housing barriers with regional partners at TCAPS, Interlochen Arts Academy, GTACS in trying to build educator housing within the region.

4. There is movement on the School Research Finance Foundation called Section 11Y funding which will provide for a comprehensive needs assessment of all of our public schools in the state of Michigan to support maintenance of our school buildings. Inequities are very dramatic throughout the state. We are hoping to have a comprehensive look at conditions of all our buildings starting this fall. Plante & Moran will be hired as the consultant and there will be an executive director hired. There are over 2,900 schools that will have assessments over the next year and a half.

5. Thanked Linda Bielecki for stepping in on meetings he was unable to for housing and development interviews.

6. We received our special education report regarding compliance and results. We were two points away from meeting requirements which puts us in tier 2 out of 4. Thanked the work of Carol Greilick and Julie Gordon in getting this submitted.

7. He introduced our leadership team for new board members and those that were in the audience.

Board Member Reports/Requests:

Member Brown thanked Renee Childers for preparing the board packet.

Dates to Remember:

August 1, 2023 Board of Education Meeting 8:00 a.m.

August 3, 2023 Legislative Dinner 5:15 p.m. at the Hagerty Center

August 30, 2023 Northwest Education Services Staff Opening Day at Thirlby Field 8:00 a.m.

The meeting adjourned at 8:32 a.m.

Joseph Fisher, President

Rachael Birgy, Secretary